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COUNTRY USSR (Arctic)

REPORT

SUBJECT Ports of Murmansk and Arkhangelsk

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Two reports on the port of Murmansk and one report on the port of Arkhangelsk

The reports contain very general information on vessel sightings, including submarine and on port security procedures and installations.

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I- General = Subject: Port of Murmansk. #1

1- There is no ^{limit} confinement as to the draft of the entering ships.

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2- A corvette type ship does the guarding outside the port.

3-

4- The loading of the apatite ore was made by means of a 40-ton floating crane. It was steam operated. The crane was ^{towed} ~~tugged~~ and it was tied (sic) between the pier and the ship.

5- The ore was transported by railroad cars near the pier and it was placed in ditches. Then, small gasoline operated cranes transferred it near the quay at a place for it to be picked up by the floating crane in order to load the ship.

6- The depth of the loaded ore was estimated on the basis of the draft of the ship. 25X1

8- The port mainly exports lumber and apatite.

9- Six other ships were loading ore.

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10- Many elderly workers were observed who yielded little in contrast to other ports in the same area.

II- FLOATS

The following were observed:

a) Ten iron barges and an equal number of wooden ones of about 200 tons. Some of them operated alone and others were tugged.

b) Four to five diesel operated ^{barges (7)} of 20 tons and 3-4 large steam operated having their

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power towards the stern so that they could be used as ice-breakers.

III- NAVAL BASE

- 1- There is a naval base at the depth of the port.
- 2- Three cranes were observed at the depth which probably belong to the Naval Station.

IV- WARSHIPS

Four to five destroyers ^{and} one cruiser were observed entering and leaving. The cruiser was rather new.

While sailing and, near the port, two submarines were observed which were being convoyed by a destroyer.

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1. 13 July at 15¹⁶30 hours, position 22 nautical miles 230 of Cape ~~Tyeribyeska~~ ^{#3} (Teriberskoi):

1 submarine came from NE at a speed of approximately 14 nautical miles and bound for Murmansk. (Heavy fog, ~~2~~ course and speed determined by radar plot.) The submarine length about 230 feet, a radar right aft the conning tower. No guns on the fore or quarter-deck, but both places a low platform which looked like the foundation for a gun. The conning tower was large with bridge erection. The hull was painted black.

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2. Archangelsk

- a. Only small minesweepers which sailed up and down the river were observed here.
- b. In Archangelsk they were very busy sending ice-breakers off to the places further north where it only is possible to sail in July and August. All the ships were heavily loaded. The stack mark was a blue circle with hammer and sickle. There were also a few passenger boats with the same mark. They were probably going up there to exchange personnel; these ships could hold about 150 persons.
- c. The inspection was very casual, and the atmosphere seemed much more pleasant.

COMMENT: Re 1: This was probably a W-class submarine.

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Subject: Port of Marmansk

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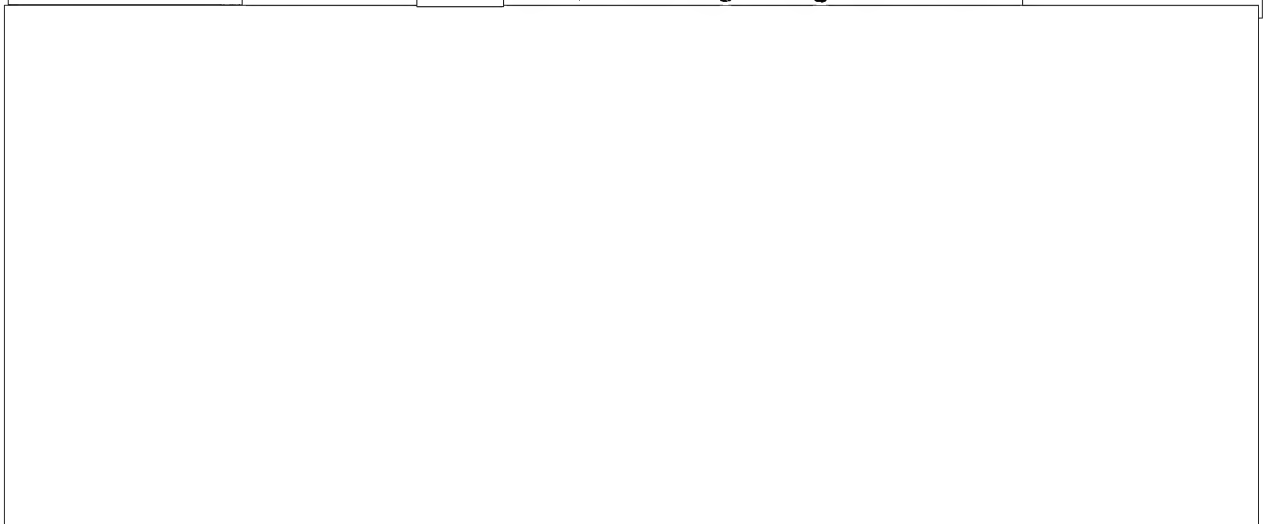
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The harbor is on the river and at an approx. 40-mile distance from the mouth of it.

At a distance of about 20 miles from the mouth of the river

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a corvette was patrolling along the river.



Loading is effected with the aid of the only one crane there of 10 tons in hoisting power.

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There were no warehouses or any other installations there. The area at this part of the harbor, is not populated. It takes about 20 minutes by car to get to the city. The old city has been destroyed by bombing. The new city has been rebuilt temporarily.

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[REDACTED]

Loading is continuous, the shifts of workers employed changing every eight hours.

[REDACTED] three cruisers, two of which had been old ones. The
third [REDACTED] equal to that of the
'Averof', was put on a dry-dock two days later. Its armament was estimated to
be consisting of 16 or 18 inch guns. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These vessels bore a radar of the ordinary cargo-ship type on their
tower.

[REDACTED]

There are no restrictions regarding the exchange of foreign currency. The
~~level~~ of the cost of living is high and the natives are in distress financially.

There is a seaman's club in the city, and seamen are invited to it by its
members who board the ships for this purpose. This club, functioning for
propaganda purposes, includes a motion picture room, a dance hall and a
library.

[REDACTED]

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